



Satellite image with enhanced low cloud-top temperatures (degrees C) for 7:15 a.m. EDT (NOAA)

### **Agricultural Weather Highlights - Monday - August 5, 2002**

- ***In the West***, scattered showers across the ***Four Corners region and Intermountain West*** continue to reduce the wildfire threat, ease irrigation demands, and provide some relief from long-term drought. Meanwhile in the ***Northwest***, cool weather is easing the moisture requirements of summer crops, although many rangelands and dryland small grains are in need of additional rainfall.
- ***On the Plains***, cool weather lingers across ***northern portions of the region***, while highly beneficial showers are overspreading areas as far south as drought-stricken ***South Dakota and Nebraska***. However, excessive heat (today's high temperatures are forecast to approach or reach 100 degrees F) and drought continue to severely stress pastures and summer crops on the ***central Plains***.
- ***In the Corn Belt***, a strong cold front is introducing much cooler weather and sparking much-needed shower activity, following another weekend of stressful conditions (dry soils and high temperatures approaching 100 degrees F) for reproductive to filling corn and soybeans. The ***upper Mississippi Valley*** remains the sole portion of the ***Midwest*** where summer crops have escaped significant moisture stress.
- ***In the South***, Tropical Storm Bertha is centered near ***New Orleans, Louisiana***, generating gusty winds and locally heavy showers in the ***central Gulf Coast region***. Farther east, drought continues to reduce groundwater reserves and adversely affect rain-fed crops in the ***middle and southern Atlantic States***.

**Outlook:** Showers and thunderstorms will accompany a strong cold front moving across the ***eastern U.S.*** By mid-week, much cooler air will spread into the ***Great Lakes, Corn Belt, and Atlantic Coast States***. Meanwhile, the remnants of Tropical Storm Bertha will bring locally heavy rain to the ***Delta and central Gulf Coast***. Farther west, showers are likely across the ***western Corn Belt, central and northern Plains, and Rockies***, while monsoon showers will continue in the ***Southwest***. Cool, unsettled weather will prevail in the ***Pacific Northwest***. The 6-10 day outlook for August 10-14 calls for warmer-than-normal weather for the ***High Plains, Rockies, and the Mid-Atlantic region***. Meanwhile, below-normal temperatures are forecast for the ***Pacific Northwest***. Above-normal rainfall is expected in the ***Mississippi Valley, upper Midwest, and Northeast***, while below-normal rainfall is forecast across the ***Pacific Coast and Mid-Atlantic States***.

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